



PATENT
Docket No. 56286US003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): PARTHASARATHY et al.) Group Art Unit: 1751
Serial No.: 09/841,264) Examiner: Unknown
Confirmation No.: 5359)
Filed: 24 April 2001)
For: BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE PROCESSING METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS
THAT INCLUDE SURFACTANTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
ATTN: BOX PATENT APPLICATION
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to taking up the above-identified application for examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the Drawings

Please add new Figures: 2, 3, and 4.

In the Specification

Please insert the following paragraphs after the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 10. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, these paragraphs are also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of one device according to the present invention.

FIG. 3 is a top plan view of another device according to the present invention.

FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional view of the device of FIG. 3 taken along line 4-4 in FIG. 3.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 26, with the following rewritten paragraph. Per 37 C.F.R. §1.121, this paragraph is also shown in Appendix A with notations to indicate the changes made.